

“The Kansas Framework for Growth recognizes manufacturing as an area of strength for the state. It focuses on ways Kansas can embrace emerging opportunities and solidify our role as a manufacturing leader and central hub for 21st century supply-chain success.”

— Gov. Lara Kelly, on October 5th, announcing the official launch of CONNEX™ Kansas, a new program from Kansas Manufacturing Solutions (KMS) and the Kansas Department of Commerce, designed to strengthen the Kansas manufacturing supply chain

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Kansas

Pop. (2021): 2,955,657
Median household income (2021): \$61,084
Credit Rating: AA- / Stable

Pop. growth 2021–2026: 0.27%
Median age (2021): 37.6
Right-to-work state: Yes

Legislative Update

House Bill 2101 extends the current transfer of the first \$10.5 million credited to the Expanded Lottery Act Revenues Fund (ELARF) from ELARF to the Kan-grow Engineering Fund – KU, the Kan-grow Engineering Fund – KSU, and the Kan-grow Engineering Fund – WSU. Each fund receives \$3.5 million in each fiscal year.

Among other measures, SB 159, the state omnibus budget for FY 2021 and FY 2022 passed in May, increased funding for four-year and two-year public and private colleges and technical schools totaling \$53 million.

SB 65 ensures that companies will no longer need to go through the Kansas Industrial Training/Retraining (KIT/KIR) programs to qualify for the High Performance Incentive Program (HPIP), leaving vital training funds to be used in more strategic ways. In addition, the bill allows for up to 50% of tax credits earned through HPIP to be transferred, helping to ensure that companies can fully use earned credits.

The STAR Bonds program in Kansas has been continued with updates that include third-party feasibility studies to be engaged by Commerce, community engagement summary requirements, and other transparency measures.



24th
Business Tax Climate Rank Change 2021–2022: +10



31st
Higher Ed. R&D Expenditure in \$000s: 540,529



20th
Number of NCRCs: 71,672 | Percent Improvement 2020–2021: 23.77%



39th
2021 Workers' Comp Index Rate: 1.12



27th
Industrial power cost per kWh: \$7.51



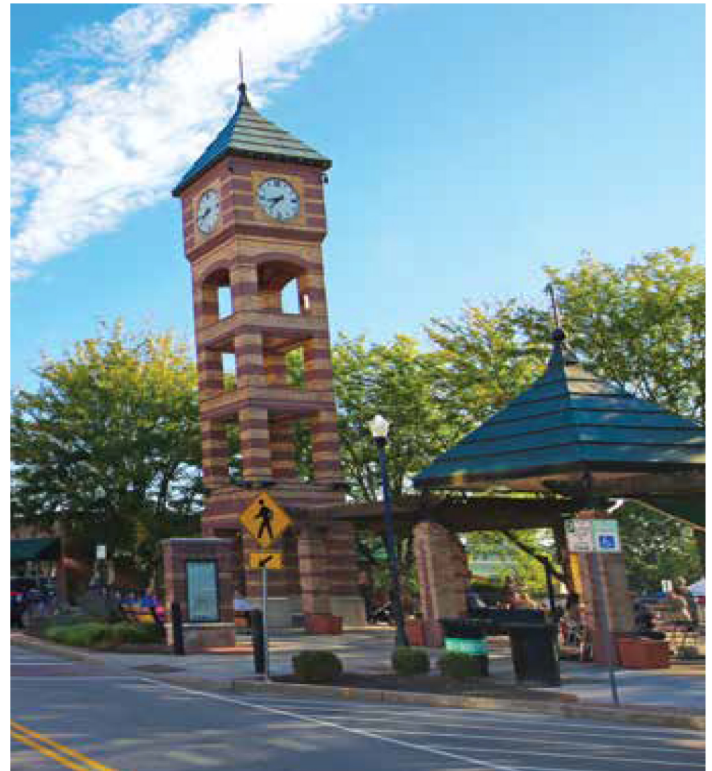
30th
Total Revenue as Share of Total Expenses, FY 2004–2019: 102.3%

PROJECT WATCH

Charter Communications plans to open a new customer retention center in Overland Park, creating 510 new full-time jobs by the end of 2022. The leading connectivity provider's expansion will invest \$18.9 million in the project. Charter is a leading broadband connectivity company and cable operator serving over 31 million customers in 41 states — including more than 130,000 customers in Kansas — under the Spectrum brand of Internet®, TV, Mobile and Voice services.

“Broadband investments are taking off in Kansas and Charter Communications has a leading role in making that happen,” Lieutenant Governor and Commerce Secretary David Toland said. “By significantly expanding its existing investment and bringing many more jobs to the State, Charter is clearly signaling that the educated workforce and quality of life Kansas offers is top notch.”

Charter's new Kansas center will provide support for customers from across the country in choosing the right Spectrum Internet®, TV, Mobile and Voice services to best fit their needs. The new center is expected to open in early 2022.



The clocktower in Overland Park, Kansas

Photo: Getty Images



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